IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 74. (Cancelled)

75. (Currently Amended) A system for alerting a user having a tag receiver to separation from a tagged object, the system comprising a tag and a tag receiver, the tag comprising:

a spread spectrum transmitter; ~~and~~

~~a switch coupled to the spread spectrum transmitter for switching the spread spectrum transmitter on and off;~~

the tag receiver comprising:

a receiver ~~for~~ to receiv~~cing~~ transmissions from the tag;

a detector, coupled to the receiver, ~~for~~ to detect~~ing~~ a reduction in the strength of signal received from the tag; and

~~an alarm~~ device, coupled to the detector, ~~for~~ to provide~~ing~~ a user alert when a reduction in signal strength is detected; and wherein

the transmitter is configured to transmit a spread spectrum signal consisting essentially of a spreading code unmodulated by baseband data; and wherein

the receiver is configured to recognise said tag on the basis of a received signal consisting essentially of said spreading code unmodulated by baseband data.~~,~~

76. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 75 wherein the spread spectrum transmitter is a direct sequence spread spectrum transmitter.

77. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein the receiver has a first receiving antenna and ~~one or more additional features selected from (i)~~ an adjustable range.~~; (ii) a received signal strength indicator; and (iii) a second, directional receiving antenna and means for selecting one of said first and second receiving antennas~~

Please add the following new claims:

78. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein the receiver has a first receiving antenna and a received signal strength indicator.

79. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein the receiver has a first receiving antenna and a second, more directional receiving antenna and means for selecting one of said first and second receiving antennas.

80. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein the tag further comprises a switch coupled to the spread spectrum transmitter for switching the spread spectrum transmitter on and off.

81. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said spreading code is based on a Gold code.

82. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said spreading code is based on a Kasami code.

83. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said receiver has an indicator to indicate when a tag with said spreading code is detected.

84. (New) A system as claimed in claim 83 wherein said receiver has an input device to allow a user to select a said spreading code for detection.

85. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said tag includes an acoustic command receiver to receive an acoustic command to control said transmission.

85. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein the output of said spread spectrum transmitter is pulsed, the pulses having an on state when said transmitter is transmitting a spread spectrum signal and an off state when said transmitter is not transmitting.

86. (New) A system as claimed in claim 85 wherein said detector is configured to detect said reduction in signal strength between one said pulse and a later said pulse.

87. (New) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said tag is at least partially solar powered.

88. (New) A tag for the system of claim 76, the tag comprising a spread spectrum transmitter to transmit a spread spectrum signal, and wherein said spread spectrum signal consists essentially of a spreading code unmodulated by baseband data.

89. (New) A system as claimed in claim 88 wherein the output of said spread spectrum transmitter is pulsed, the pulses having an on state when said transmitter is transmitting a spread spectrum signal and an off state when said transmitter is not transmitting.

90. (New) A system as claimed in claim 88 wherein said tag is at least partially solar powered.

91. (New) A receiver for the system of claim 76, said receiver comprising:

a receiver front end to receive an unmodulated spread spectrum signal from a tag;

a detector, coupled to said receiver front end to detect a reduction in the strength of a signal received from said tag; and

a device, coupled to the detector, to provide a user alert when a reduction in signal strength is detected; and wherein

said receiver is configured to recognise said tag on the basis of a received signal which consists essentially of a spreading code unmodulated by baseband data.

92. (New) A system as claimed in claim 91 wherein said receiver has an indicator to indicate when a tag with said spreading code is detected.

93. (New) A system as claimed in claim 92 wherein said receiver has an input device to allow a user to select a said spreading code for detection.

94. (New) A system for alerting a user having a tag receiver to separation from a tagged object, the system comprising a tag and a tag receiver,
the tag comprising:
a spread spectrum transmitter;
the tag receiver comprising:
a receiver to receive transmissions from the tag;
a detector, coupled to the receiver, to detect a reduction in the strength of signal received from the tag; and
a device, coupled to the detector, to provide a user alert when a reduction in signal strength is detected; and wherein
said spread spectrum signal is based on a Gold code.

95. (New) A system for alerting a user having a tag receiver to separation from a tagged object, the system comprising a tag and a tag receiver,
the tag comprising:
a spread spectrum transmitter;
the tag receiver comprising:
a receiver to receive transmissions from the tag;
a detector, coupled to the receiver, to detect a reduction in the strength of signal received from the tag; and
a device, coupled to the detector, to provide a user alert when a reduction in signal strength is detected; and wherein
said spread spectrum signal is based on a Kasami code.

96. (New) A tag for a system for alerting a user having a tag receiver to separation from a tagged object, the system comprising a tag and a tag receiver, the tag comprising a spread spectrum transmitter to transmit a spread spectrum signal, and wherein said spread spectrum signal comprises a spreading code based upon at least one of a Gold code and a Kasami code.

97. (New) A receiver for a system for alerting a user having a tag receiver to separation from a tagged object, the system comprising a tag and a tag receiver, said receiver comprising:
a receiver front end to receive an spread spectrum signal from said tag;

a detector, coupled to said receiver front end to detect a reduction in the strength of a signal received from said tag; and

a device, coupled to the detector, to provide a user alert when a reduction in signal strength is detected; and wherein

said receiver is configured to receive a spread spectrum signal which comprises a spreading code based upon at least one of a Gold code and a Kasami code.